बेहतर बनाना, कृषि का विविधिकरण, आठवीं योजना में कृषि विकास की नीति में प्रमुख हैं। कृषि विकास के लिए दिए गए बल को देखते हुए कृषि तथा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के लिए अधिक निवेश की व्यवस्था करना आवश्यक है, जो संसाधन की उपलब्धता तथा इसके आवंटन पर निर्भर होगा।

Interaction between farmers and scientists

4060. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to evolve a scheme for ensuring greater interaction between the farmers and the scientists in a way as to ensure the backflow of research to the villages; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Sir, The Indian Council of Agricultural Research, through its first-line transfer of technology projects, has been promoting interaction between the farmer and scintists with a view to take scientific know-how to the villages. These projects include National Demonstrations in 48 Districts, Operational Research Projects in 152 Centres, Krishi Vigyan Kendras in 107 Districts, Lab to Land programme through 101 existing institutionsRcentres and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes projects at 45 Centres.

Milk and milk products control order

4061. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to advance the date of imposition of the milk and milk products control order in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the exact date from which the order is proposed to be made effective and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) There is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government for promulgation of milk and milk prducts control order in Delhi.

(b) Does not arise, in view of reply at (a) above.

Cost of production of foodgrains

4062. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the cost of production of major foodgrains and crops during the last three years;

(b) what was the annual growth rate in the cost of production and procurement of rice; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to minimise the cost of production and increase productivity of these crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHAIDRAN): (a) The cost of production of major foodgrains and cash crops during the latest available years is given in Statement I. (*See* below).

(b) The growth rate (percentage increase) in cost of production for latest available years is given in Statement-II (*See* below). The growth rate in procurement of rice is given in Statement-III. (*See* below).

(c) The Government is seized with the problem of rising cost of production and all possible measures are being taken to cut the cost as well as improve the productivity of crops through use of appropriate technology and transfer of these technologies to farmers by efficient delivery of inputes and service. It may be stated that a number of component in cost of production such as irrigation